



#### WESTERN AGRICULTURALIST. AND

"Agriculture is the noblest, as it is the most natural pursuit of Man."

VOLUME I.

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JACKSON, SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1843.

NUMBER 4.

# THE MICHIGAN FARMER. IS PUBLISHED SEMI-MONTHLY BY

-D. D. T. MOORE, Editor and Proprietor.

TERMS:

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# COMMUNICATIONS.

AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY: NUMBER III.

To Agriculturists:

Soms may be considered as magazines, which coatain gases generated by the decomposition of animal and vegetable substances with which they are impregnated: they also absorb them and moisture from the atmosphere, and they contain those inorganic matters that are found in plants, such as Potash, Soda, Silex, and Lime.

All vegetables require that certain gases, and inorganic substances such as Potash and Soda, be applied to them in some form, so that they can appropriate them to their use .-The gases from which vegetable matter in general is composed are few in number, and are always composed of the four elements, Oxygen, Hydrogen, Carbon, and Nitrogen. The inorganic matters with which they are supplied, are not as a whole necessary for any one kind of plant, but each kind has its particular inorganic substance, which is necessary for its health and development.

Most vegetables require Potash-Wheat requires Silex and Potnsh, or Silicate of Potash and some, such as the Salsola Soda, which grown on the coast of the Mediterranean, requires Soda. This plant is cultivated by the Spaniards, and burned expressly for the purpose of obtaining Soda from its ashes.

atmosphere. At times, when the admission of air is not free, part of the Carbon escapes combustion, and is left behind in the form of coal. The ashes that remain is that inorganic part which is received directly from the soil.

There are some kinds of wood that yield a much larger amount of Potash than others, and consequently they require that the soil upon which they grow contain it in greater abundance. All the Potash obtained from the ashes of wood was originally in the soil upon which it grew, and was given up during the process of vegetation.

In order that a soil may be productive, it is necessary that it be of such a kind as to maintain the proper temperature, and that it be possessed of sufficient absorbent power to retain the requisite amount of moisture and gases; and that it contain animal and vegetable products in a state of decomposition, so that the necessary gases may thus be generated and applied to the growing plant. It must also contain a certain amount of those inorganic substances that are required by the plant that grows upon it.

A soil may be too retentive of moisture, such as Clay, which, by being softened with water and exposed to the sun, becomes hard and impervious. The water cannot readily press downward, neither can that portion below the surface pass off freely by evaporation. Owing to its hard and tenacious nature the roots of plants cannot, to a sufficient extent, push themselves through it for their requisite amount of moisture and support .-For these reasons, a soil composed mostly of Clay is not suitable for the abundant production of plants. But a small amount of Clay, or alumina, is useful in any soil, if it is properly intermixed with it, for it then retains that water that is necessary-and the other earths being in greater proportion, and mingled with it, keep it from forming the hard and impervious mass above alluded to .-Again, a soil may be so composed that it will When vegetable products are burned, the not retain sufficient moisture. In cases of organic parts are converted into gases, vapor this kind, frequent stirring and working makes

and pyrolignious acid, which escape into the it more porous, and increases its absorbent powers, so that it will continually absorb the moisture and gases from the air, and thus accumulate and preserve them for the putposes of vegetation. I might say much more on soils, but I shall refer to the subject in some of my future numbers.

> Notwithstanding the soil is absolutely necessary for absorbing gases and moisture for the nutriment of plants, and for affording to them their respective inorganic substances, they supply their demands but in part, for not a small portion of the materials of which they are composed, are received from invisible gases that float in the surrounding air .-The leaves absorb those parts of them which they require, and the rest is left behind in the atmosphere, to answer other wise and useful purposes in the economy of nature. JOHN McLEAN.

Jackson, March 28th, 1843.

For the Michigan Farmer.

EDITOR OF THE FARMER:—Having noticed in your paper, how to keep and treat different animals, I wish to say a few words upon the management of sheep in the spring.— After long experience, I find that the best method of treating sheep is to keep them separate from cattle. The best manner of feeding them is to have a suitable rack for hay, with troughs attached underneath.—
The rack should be a proper height from the ground, so that the sheep can easily cut their hay. When ewes are about to yean, it is good policy to keep them by themselves, and feed with bran, shorts, or meal, as you do your cows, and they will give more milk. The reason of my recommending this kind of food, is because potatoes and turnips are very scarce. I am feeding my sheep shorts, the same as I do my cows, and find it very beneficial; it is not a new thing to me, for this is the third spring that I have fed my sheep with such food. Sheep should be well taken care of, particularly at this season of the year, and not be neglected because they are small animals.

We have an uncommon spring, as regards the severity of the weather, and many farmers are without fodder, therefore these remarks may prove more useful to your readers.
ALEXANDER H. LATIMER,

Jackson County Farm, March 28, 1943,

For the Michigan Farmer. Garden Seeds, &c .- Caution and Advice,

Mr. EDITOR :- It is the practice of many in this state, and elsewheres, to purchase seed annually, especially garden seeds, for the purpose of having choice vegetables every season. In some instances garden seeds have been sold which have been impure and bad, (no doubt undesignedly,) from what cause is not known; but a variety of causes exist, and probably some which ought not to exist. and the establishments at which they are put up may, in some cases, be undeservedly censured and their reputations thus injured. I have been sorely disappointed in this way: in some half a dozen different kinds of seeds, not one ever germinated, and upon inquiry I learned that others had experienced similar disappointment. In another instance, out of five different varieties, but two proved what they were represented to be. How far this evil is prevalent, I know not; the instances referred to might have been mistakes, rather than impositions. It would be well for those who are in the habit of purchasing their seeds from year to year, to be cautious, and only purchase such as they know, or have confidence to believe, are good and what they are represented to be.

It has often been urged that farmers should raise their own seeds, in order that they may know the quality and varieties, and not be subject to imposition and damage in this way. This I will admit, in some doges are many kinds of seeds which will retain purity an indefinite period; such seed it may do well to preserve from year to year .-There are some, however, which, if planted in close proximity to others, will materially degenerate-such as squashes, radishes, cabbages of different varieties, &c., and which can only be preserved in purity by being grown remote from each other. Our common kitchen gardens are so small, that it would be almost impossible to preserve them for any great length of time in a perfect state, which can only be done in very large gardens. In some instances vegetables lose their purity by long perpetuation in one place; although yielding abundantly they lose almost all their originality—such is the ruta baga and some other of the turnip kind. For these reasons. it becomes necessary that good seeds should be kept for sale at convenient places, to accommodate the public.

Many seeds of common use will retain their vitality but one year; others will germinate when ten years old, but they do not dwelling and his home? produce vigorous plants, and should generally be discarded. I subjoin a list of a of few the to the most splendid mansion. However

who have gardens to cultivate.

Excelent Roots .- Carrot seed, one year : parsnip, one do.; radish, two do.; turnip, four do.; and beet ten years.

Cabbage tribe .- Four years.

Leguminous Culinary Vegetables .- Beans, peas, &c., one year; onions, garlic, &c., two do.; asparagus, four do.; artichoke, three do. Plants used in tarts, &c. generally two years, but pie rhubarb one year, and the pumpkin tribe ten years; cucumbers and melons, ten years; egg plant, tomatoes, &c., two years.

The above named seeds, with proper care and good cultivation, will do well if planted as many years after ripening as there stated, and some may grow many years after :-But generally seeds, after the natural time for them to germinate, begin to lose their vitality, and some wholly lose it. Where seed is planted annually, it is preserved in a more perfect state, and does not degenerate so quick, if at all, as before stated. Every farmer or person who cultivates a garden, should therefore be cautious to obtain the purest and freshest seeds of all kinds.

Lima, March 25, 1842.

AGRICOLA.

GARDENS.

There is nothing so valuable, and still so much neglected by Farmers and Mechanics as a well cultivated Garden. And nothing so much adorns the farmers cottage, or the mechanics dwelling, as a good garden, interspersed with trees of delicious fruits, filled with the choicest vegetables, and bordered with splendid flowers. In the possession of such a Garden, with what pleasure does the laboring man return from his daily toil, to regale himself awhile with the beauties of naturethe trees, the fruits, the flowers, planted and reared by his own industry, and arranged with order and neatness to adorn the humble residence. But he is not alone in this enjoyment; the members of his family are also partaking of equal pleasure, while lending their aid to cultivate and adorn it. Such a scene will have a strong tendency to restrain them from the paths of vice and immorality and allure them to intelligence and virtue. The mind is excited to adore the works of Nature, and contemplate the power of the Creator .-Where is the man who is so averse to such scenes of pleasure, that he cannot occasionally devote an hour's labor and a few pennies to promote his own and his family's pleasure and happiness-to adorn and ornament his

As an ornament, a Garden is the key-stene

most common, which may be useful to those tastefully the grounds may be arranged, and art, with all her architectural beauty may ornament and display; yet, without the wellcultivated and neat Garden, there is a vacuum that nought can fill. The humble cottage, surrounded with its trees, its vines, fruits and flowers, is far more inviting than the destitute aplendid mansion. It exhibits intelligence, prosperity and happiness.

> As well as an ornament, it is economy. It is surprising what an amount can be proproduced from a well cultivated and judiciously planned garden, even a small one .-Considering the small amount of labor, and the variety, value and quantity of its productions, no portion of the labors of the farmer or the mechanic returns more ample reward than the time and attention bestowed upon the garden. It furnishes an abundance of various vegetables and fruits which, if purchased at market or elsewhere, would swell the family expenses indefinitely. It also occasionally gives the inmates of the family a healthy employment; to them it is often a pleasant recreation to rear the tender plants, and otherwise adorn and beautify the garden.

> It is also a matter of comfort. With what comfort does the Farmer, the Mechanic, the Merchant or Professional man return from the field, shop, store and office, to visit the well dressed garden of useful vegetables and fruits of the choicest varieties; and flowers of the richest hue and delicious fragrance. And how refreshing to sit down to the table fully supplied with the favorite dishes of delicious viands and fruits, of their own raising. It cannot fail to administer to the comforts and enjoyments of any family, and to render their abode a domicile of peace and happiness.

> Who, then, will not cultivate a Garden the coming season? April is the month in which to prepare and plant the Garden, and let it receive all due attention in the proper season. money of the forty of poster

A FARMER.

Por the Michigan Parm To the Farmers of Michigan.

FARMERS have often injured themselves by grasping after too much land. In many instances, it has been more the line of their ambition to own large farms, than to be skillful farmers. It has been the prevailing struggle to add field to field. This however, in a general view, is poor economy, and tends to poverty rather than riches. It is the thorough cultivation of a few acres, rather than the possession of many, that fills one's barns and granaries. Whoever has been in the vicinity of such large towns as New York and Boston, must have observed that, by reason of the high cultivation of the land, a small inclosure produces as much as a considerable farm commonly does in the interior parts of the country.

It is a necessary point of prudence for a farmer to proportion the dimensions of his farm to his means of improvement. A large farm requires a large sum of money to stock it and defray the necessary expenses of labor; otherwise some parts of it, which are not cultivated and yet taxed, will be a bill of cost and tend to eat up the profits of the rest .-Considerable expense is requisite to bring common lands into a state of high cultivation; but this expense is sure to be repaid more than fourfold, insomuch that it would be far more profitable, generally, for the farmer to lay out his spare money in the way of increasing the cultivation of his land, than either to loan it or purchase therewith more land .-A man that has a large farm, but no money, and perhaps is some in debt, derives from it but little clear profits. He is obliged to husband his farm under so many disadvantages, that it pays him but little more than for his labor; and if he would sell one half of his land, and expend the proceeds in manuring and cultivating the other half, he would greatly relieve the burdens of his life, and become a wealthier man.

Jackson County, March, 1843.

# More Intelligence Necessary.

An Ohio correspondent of the Genesee Farmer makes some observations which may prove valuable to those who choose to heed them. He says:

'Whatever may be regarded as the remote causes of embarrassment, it is certain that it is none the less real; nor is it easy to prescribe the mode, or predict the period, of recovery. One thing, however, has struck me as a favorable omen, that is, the farmers throughout the whole country are beginning to inquire into the causes and condition of the present state of things, and are arousing themselves to action on the subject. Many of them begin to suspect that they have been blinded and misled by designing men, and that much of the evil might have been avoided, if the great laboring and producing class had been rightly informed and on their guard, so as to have checked the wild achemes of ambitious politicians. This leads them to see the absolute necessity there is that farmers in this country should be men of more general intelligence—should have more knowledge of the principles of political economy, and read and believe something besides what is found in their own one-sided party newspaper. I have never observed among farmers such a breaking up of party prejudices, and such disposition to inquire after knowledge, as at present.'

Ir you are excited to anger, stop and think before you speak.

#### Corn Sugar.

A correspondent of the Tocsin of Liberty, gives the following account of the mode of cultivating the common Indian corn for the purpose of making sugar from it, and the simple apparatus and process by which the sugar may be made, all as he saw it, in the pleasant little settlement, called Quaker Street, in the south-west part of Duanesburg, Schenectady county. The whole operation of tillage and manufacture is so simple and practicable, and the results so desirable, that we trust our farmers will give a portion of their care and labor in this direction.

I sat down to write of corn sugar, according to my promise, to several friends, who propose to try an experiment with it, next spring, to the extent of an acre or two, at least. I have recently noticed many successful experiments to make sugar and molasses, in various parts of the country. They can be attended with no loss, for the stalks will make good fodder, if nothing else. The corn should be planted early as the season will allow. Planted in rows, with hills 7 or 12 inches apart, it will do well. Keep it well hoed, and when the ears begin to silk, carefully clip off every ear. Let the stalks grow till they are fully matured. Just as they begin to turn yellow, a little, cut them up, close to the ground. All the strength and sweetness of the grain passes into the stalk, and it will grow larger and higher than usual. It should be planted on good, fat land, to secure the best results. It must be cut before it is touched by frost, or the sugar will not granulate.

A common cider mill with three smooth rollers, placed a little nearer together than is usual in grinding apples. will answer very well in grinding the stalks. The juice is boiled down in copper or brass kettles, skimming it, as it may be necessary, till it is about as thick as common molasses. The yield of molasses is about one pint to five pints of juice. To have the sugar chrystalize, the juice, when boiled down, should be placed in shallow pans over a gentle heat, in the sun by day and in a well warmed room by night. If through want of experience, the experimenter does not get his sugar the value of the molasses is not changed. It is much like honey, and contains much more saccharine than the best of New Orleans or Trinidad molasses. The flavor is very fine.

flavor is very fine.

A machine for grinding, made with iron rollers, though more costly, would work rather better than one of wood, but is not essential. A wooden one might be shod with iron.

The scum, taken off while boiling, will make capital vinegar. The value of the stalks after grinding, as feed for cattle, is considerable. It may be fed out at once, or dried for future use.

EXPENIENCED agriculturists tell us that all plants, whether in the garden, field, or forest if in rows, should be placed in the direction of north and south, in order to admit the sun's rays every day on both sides of the row.

#### From the True Genese, Farmer Rinerant Horticulturists,

During this month, many farmers will be visited by a class of men, who travel through the country, to engage jobs of grafting, which they propose to do at moderate prices, when the propor season arrives. We caution our readers against entering into any engagments with such persons. If your orchard has not been grafted, it surely ought to be; this should be considered as an important part of the business. Should a farmer hire a man to hoe corn, at seventy-five cents per day, and at night, after paying him, discover that the work had not been done as well as was expected, he might console himself by the reflection, that although his work had been but poorly attended to, yet it had suffered no material harm. The cause may be different with your orchard. It will be many years before you can ascertain whether it has been properly done or not; and the good or bad effects of a day's labor in grafting, may be felt for ages, and may amount to many thousand dollars, for or against the employer. We could mention several instances which have come under our notice, where orchards have been grafted by itinerants; and the owners, after waiting several years, have found, to their sorow, that instead of having them improved. they have been deteriorated, and the fruit was not as valuable as before it was grafted.

The value of an orchard depending upon the quality of the fruit it produces, and not upon the simple circumstance of its being grafted or not, we would recommend, when it is intended to graft trees, that, in the first place, the farmer should himself superintend the cutting of cions. They should be taken only from bearing trees, or those that possess valuable qualities, and deposited in a safe place in the garden, until wanted. Previous to the season for setting them out, propers a sufficient quantity of wax, a few strips of muslin, or some other cotton cloth, about an inch and a half wide, put them into the melted wax until saturated, and then lay them on a few small sticks over the wax, to drain; after this is done, they may be laid aside for use. The wax may be made, by melting together, one part of rosin, two of tallow, and three of beeswax. The cions should be set either by the farmer himself, his kinsman, or some other person, in whose integrity the utmost confidence can be placed. This course will prove a saving of five or ten dollars per day; and as it is all done under the supervision of the proprietor, of course can be fully relied upon. All the necessary directions relative to the above, will be given in our next number.

Rules worth being observed by Farmers.—

1. Perform every operation in the proper season. 2. Perform every operation in the best manner. 3. Always keep your implements and tools in the best order. 4. Finish one job before you begin another. 5. After finishing a job always return your tools to their proper places. 6. Don't put in a crop too large to cultivate well. 7. Personally attend to every operation, and see that it be effectually done.—Baltimore Farmer.

# MICHIGAN FARMER.

#### JACKSON.

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1843.

#### April .- Work for the Month.

In consequence of the severe winter weather during the entire month of March, farmers will have a great multiplicity of labor to perform this month. The present is not only the time to put every thing in readiness, but to prepare for and commence action. Much is to be done, which is usually the business of March. The prudent farmer will first see that all his implements of husbandry are in order and prepared for the spring and summer's campaign; and he who neglects this important matter will be continually perplexed and delayed in his labors, at those seasons when time is most precious.

Farm Stock .- During this month the condition and multiplication of farm stock, of every description, will require much care .-Cattle, colts, calves, lambs and pigs are to be looked after; and, on account of the severity of the season, they will demand an unusual share of attention. Fodder of all kinds is so scarce that hundreds of cattle are now dying; but with little trouble and expense the stock of most farmers can be kept alive, at least, even the' the earth be covered with snow for some time to come. Those residing on, or in the vicinity of timbered land, should browse their cattle, and give them sufficient meal, shorts or bran to form a cud, not forgetting to give them salt frequently; they will then 'live through,' and even thrive. Horses and working cattle will do well, if fed with cut straw (rye straw is the best) and shorts or meal, which should be wet and sprinkled upon it. Farmers on the openings will find this & good feed for most kinds of stock.

Freces.—As soon as the snow leaves the ground, the prudent farmer will see that his fences are all in order. This is an important matter. Good, substantial fences are sure indications of a wise and thrifty farmer.—See to it that your fences are properly rebuilt and repaired—staking them where necessary and supplying new rails in place of broken and decayed ones. See, also, that your gates and bars are in order—that the former are well bung, and the latter made secure by being supplied with whole and firm posts, &c.

Many other kinds of labor are to be performed during the month, but we have noticed a portion of the preparatory and most important—while some essential matters are treated of in other pages, by our valuable porrespondents, and in various selections.

#### The Season

The past winter and present spring up to this time, have been the most extraordinary, for snow and severe weather, of any season ever experienced in Michigan. We have had almost uninterrupted sleighing since the 20th of November last. The snow is now over two feet deep, on the level, in this vicinity-fifteen inches of which has fallen within the past week! The weather has been unusually cold during the month of March -the average temperature being 18 degrees, and seven degrees colder than that of January! But a change must be near at hand, as the weather is now more mild, and there are other indications of a thaw ere mid-summer.—And, notwithstanding the apparent alarm of many of our citizens, we apprehend that the earth will be in a better condition for vegetation after the snow disappears, than if it had been as exposed, during the winter and early spring, as it has been some seasons past.

## Plaster Bed, in Jackson County.

We are credibly informed that a Bed of Plaster (Sulphate of Lime) has been discovered in the town of Henrietta, in this county. It is situated on the east side of Grand River, about five miles north of this village. The owner of the land that contains it, (who now resides in Genesee county, N. Y.,) purposes, we understand, to locate upon it and establish a plaster mill, during the present year.—He took some of the plaster to New York, the past season, and had the same ground; and, so far as it has been tested, it has proven to be of superior quality. Of the probable extent of the bed, we are not informed.

This must be gratifying intelligence to our numerous readers—and more particularly to those residing in this section of the state.—
If the Plaster is of good quality, and there should prove to be an extensive quantity of it, the benefits which will thus accrue to the farming community, must be incalculable.

To Correspondents.—Many correspondents may be disappointed in not seeing their articles in print, but we are under the necessity of deferring the publication of some, and a notice of others, until our next number.—

The authors of all the communications in this number, are heartily welcomed to the columns of the Farmer, although we should prefer to publish their communications with the names, or initials at least, attached.—Honest writers have nothing to fear; and we expressly state that all communications, &c. must hereafter be accompanied by the proper name of the writer, in order to secure an insertion—although the initials only, or some other signature, may be used, if desired.

# Report of the Commissioner of Patents.

WE are greatly indebted to Hon. H. L. ELLSWORTH, Commissioner of Patents, for a copy of his valuable and interesting Report, exhibiting the operations of the Patent Office during the year 1842. In addition to the list of Patents, the Report contains the annual Agricultural Statistics of the United Statesand a tabular estimate of the crops of the past year, with accompanying remarks.-It also contains able communications from practical and scientific men in different parts of the country, which embrace much useful information. It is undoubtedly the most valunble agricultural document ever presented to the American public. We shall hereafter give our readers some interesting extracts from this Report.

## More Subscribers Wanted!

In order that we may be enabled to render the Farmer more beneficial to its already numerous patrons, as well as to those who may hereafter extend to it their encouragement and support, we want several hundred subscribers in addition to the list yet obtained .-We have on hand about five hundred copies of each number from the commencement of the volume; and, to castain the publication, full that number of subscribers is still neces. sary. Who will aid in obtaining them?-Will not those menerous friends, in this and adjoining counties, who have thus far nobly and substantially aided us, still continue their exertions to increase the circulation of the Farmer, and thereby augment its usefulness? We are duly thankful to all who have already volunteered their assistance in ex. tending the circulation of the Farmer, and a continuation of their favors will receive our most grateful acknowledgments.

#### A Request.

Post-masters and other courteous friends by whom our Prospectus has been circulated for subscribers to the Farmer, are requested to send in the names they have obtained, as soon as convenient. Our friends will greatly oblige us by promptly complying with this request. Post-masters will also render us under renewed obligations by returning the back numbers of the Farmer that may have been refused.

Western Alligator.—A machine with this name for ditching wet prarazies, has been invented by Mr. Cleveland, of Whitley co., Ia. It is worked with the assistance of two men and one yoke of oxen, and ditches from 50 to 100 rods per day. The ditch is cut 38 inches in width, and 18 in depth, and the soil is neatly thrown out on each side of the disch.

Encouragement.

Notwithstanding the many difficulties that we have thus far been obliged to surmount, and which have limited our efforts, we are constantly receiving cheering evidence that our labors in conducting the Farmer, meet the approbation of friends and patrons .-This is truly encouraging. Nothing is more gratifying to the conductor of a public journal. than the assurance that his efforts to advance the cause in which he is engaged, are appreciated and favorably received. We endeavor to make our paper useful and interesting to all, and particularly valuable to the farming community; and we intend to do all in our power to render it worthy of the patronage which has already been extended, and is fast

Among the numerous approbatory and and substantially encouraging evidences we have received, is the following from a staunch farmer and friend to Agricultural Improvements, who resides at Jonesville, Hillsdale county:

"FRIEND MOORE:- I am happy to make the acquaintance of the Michigan Farmer .-The first number came to hand, neat, instructive, interesting and useful. It is such a publication as should find a hearty welcome to every cottage and hamlet in Michigan.—
My best wishes for the success of your enterprise. Enclosed I send you One Dollar, for which you will please place my name among those of your subscribers.

Yours truly, H. L. HEWITT."

We have received similar communications from various sections of the state, which conclusively show that that there are those who take great interest in sustaining an agricultural journal published 'at home,' by lending it their encouragement and support. And are there not others among our readers who will aid us with their support ?- remembering that the first year is always the most difficult to sustain a publication of this character, and that we therefore need assistance now, if ever.

Our brethren of the press, too, have nobly seconded us in our efforts to establish in Michigan an agricultural journal on a permanent basis. For the many flattering testimonials they have bestowed upon us, in favorably noticing the matter and manner of our paper, we are truly grateful-and assure them that their approbation, instead of rendering us vain and egotistical, will incite renewed industry and perseverance that their (and all other) encomiums may be merited.

TRANKS to Hon. H. L. Ellworth and Senator Woodbridge for valuble public documents which they have forwarded us.

To Old Subscribers.

WE have thus far forwarded our paper to about six hundred persons, whose names were on the subscription list of the 'Western Farmer.' Some of this number have kindly sent us the amount of their subscriptions, but from many of them we have received no substantial indications of patronage.-But as we have been to considerable expense in furnishing them the paper up to this time, we trust (and ask, as a matter of simple justice,) that those who have not yet paid their subscriptions will forward the small amount of the same during the present month, instead of hereafter discontinuing the paper, and thus subjecting us to great loss. Although the times are very hard, we are confident that almost any one of our subscribers can, if so disposed, raise the sum of One Dollar for this purpose; and if each one of them will now do so, it will greatly encourage us and essentially aid in defraying the necessary expenses of our establishment. With the most rigid economy, our expenses are considerable. and we depend almost exclusively upon the punctuality of our patrons, to enable us to defray them. We carnestly desire that those to whom this article is addressed, will bear these things in mind; and, in consideration of our necessities, remit the amount of their subscriptions as soon as possible.

To ADVERTISERS .- As it is customary with other agricultural journals, we shall hereafter devote a limited portion of our paper -not to exceed one page-to advertising. To manufacturers, or agents for the sale of Agricultural Implements, &c., proprietors of Nurseries, and other business men, the Farmer is the best medium of advertising in Michigan; for we believe it already has a much greater circulation than any other country paper in the state, and its subscription list is increasing in almost every county.

FACTS FOR FARMERS .- Rev. Mr. Choules, in his lecture before the American Institute, at New York, says :- "The revival of agriculture commenced in Flanders, about seven hundred years ago. There the soil was little better than white barren sand—now its increase, is said to be twice as great as in England. The grand maxim on which the Flemish farmer acts is, without manure, no corn— without caule no manure—and without root crops, no cattle."

ERET ROOT SUGAR.—A statistical writer in La Presse, of Paris, produces evidence, which he deems demonstrative, of the far greater productiveness of the beet root than any other raw material for sugar, the cane not excepted.

## NEWS ITEMS.

MAINE.—Gov. Fairfield (Dem.) has been elected to fill the vacancy of the U.S. Senate occasioned by the resignation of Hon. Reuel

THE Legislature of Illinois has passed a bill repealing the charter of the State Bank, and another to put the Bank into liquidation.

DIED at Yucatan, 9th ult.-Charles Russel, Esq. U. S. Consul, a nati e of Philadelphia.

ALABAMA has been districted for choice of Congressmen. Election 1st Monday in Aug.

THE Legislature of Maryland has adjourned. No Districting Bill passed-no U.S. Senator chosen.

FAST DAY .- The Governor of New Hampshire, has appointed Thursday the 6th of April as a day to be observed by fasting and prayer

ICE AT BUFFALO .- The Buffalo Gazette of the 21st ult. says: Going out about a mile from the shore, yesterday, by cutting through the ice and measuring its thickness in three places, the result was-28, 29 3-4 and 31 inches, of as solid and transparent an article as ever graced an ice house,

This portion of the earth is again covered with snow to an average depth of twelve or thirteen inches. An old pioneer who assisted in cutting the cane from the spot where our city now stands, says this is the rudest winter ever known at Nashville. It has been cold enough for Canada or Oregon .- Nashville Union, March 17.

CHINA.—A bill has passed Congress appropriating 40,000 for establishing commercial relations between this country and China. The President nominated, and the Senate confirmed, Mr. Everett, our present minister to Great Britain, as Commissioner to China.

VERMONT SUGAR .- The Montpeller Watch man estimates that the maple sugar produced in that State the present season, at the low price of five cents per pound, will amount to one million of dollars. This will make the quantity of Sugar about 20,000 hbds. In 1840 the quantity was but 5500 hhds.

## THE MARKETS.

New York, March 14, 1843. Genesee Flour, \$ 4,75; but with few sales; corn 53 cents per bushel; pork-new mess \$9,50—old do. \$7,75

Спіслво, Маген 17, 1849. Wheat, 54 cents; Flour from \$2,50 to \$2,75 : Corn 18 cents ; Outs 15 cents ; Pork in the hog from \$1,00 to \$2,25. Lard 4 cts. per pound.

CHILICOTHE, March 17, 1843. Wheat 40 cents, per bushel; Flour fram \$2,50 to 2,75; Oats 10 to 12 cents per bushel; timothy seed \$1,00; Clover seed \$2,25 per bushel. Lard 31 cents per lb. Mess Pork \$5,00; prime \$3,06 per barrel. BUFFALO, March 21, 1843.

Flour 3,50 to 3,75; Pork meas \$7,50 to \$8,00; prime \$5,00 to 5,50, Corn 871 cents; Oats 14 to 15 cents; Lard 5 to 6 cents per lb. Wheat, none in market,

# SELECTIONS.

## Have you Planted a Grape Vine.

If you have planted one that produces good fruit, take care of it, and propagate it by cut-tings and layers, and its fruit will repay your labor. If you have not, buy or beg one, and plant it the present spring. If you buy, it will cost you a few shillings; if you begone, I do not know how much it will cost to requite the favor. The second year after planting, it will produce you fruit, which will increase every year as the plant enlarges. The fruit will be found to be wholesome and grateful, and you will realize the pleasure of sitting under your own vine during the intense heat of summer; and you will wonder that you have lived so long without enjoying this pleasure. The native kinds most worthy of cultivation, are the Isabella, Winne and Catawba, all hardy, thrifty, and abundant bearers, and their fruit ripening in the order in which they are named. If you want foreign fruit, the Sweet-water, Chasselas, Black Cluster, and other early kinds are to be preferred. These demand more care than the native kinds, and the vines will require a slight covering of earth during the winter. A little experience will make you familiar with their management, and convert the labor required for their care, into a recreation.

EFFECTS OF CULTURE.—The almond with its tough corianceous husk, has been changed by long culture into the peach, with its beau-tiful, soft, and delicious pulp; the acrid sloe, into the lucious plum; and the harsh, bitter crab, into the golden pippin. Attention to nutrition has produced quite as marked changes in the pear, cherry, and other fruit trees; many of which have not only been altered in their qualities and appearance, but even in their habits. Celery, so agreeable to most palates, is a modification of the apium garveoleus; the taste of which is so acrid and bitter that it cannot be eaten. Our cauliflowers and cabbages, which weigh many pounds, are largely-developed coleworts, that grow wild on the sea-shore, and do not weigh more than half-an-ounce each. The rose has been produced, by cultivation, from the common wild-briar. Many plants may be modified with advantage by suppressing the growth of one part which causes increased development of other

WEIGHT OF HAY .- It may be useful to some of our readers, to know the rule which is adopted for ascertaining the quantity of hay contained in a stack or mow, without moving it. Measure the length, breadth, and depth of the given quantity, and reduce it to cubic feet.
Multiply the number of square feet, by the supposed weight, which will vary from six to eight pounds, according to the quality of the hay. Timothy will weigh about seven pounds and a half; clover, about six pounds; making allowance whether it has been pressed more or less. Although this may not prove exact in all cases, it may serve as a guide to those who wish to buy or sell without weighing.—

True Genesee Farmer.

# National Silk Convention.

A National Silk Convention was held at Northampton, Mass., in September last, which was unusually important and interesting. We

condense below a synopsis of its proceedings.

It was unanimously Resolved by the delegates, a highly intelligent body of men from different parts of the country.

That there are ample grounds for confidence in the silk business.

That the causes of failure are transient, while those of success, diet, and climate, are permanent.

That American silk in the state which the worm leaves it, is first rate.

That a climate and soil adapted to the sucsful growth of Indian corn, is every way suited to growing silk.

That the natural growth of the mulberry in the United States and China, indicate the adaptation of this country to the silk culture.

That there is every encouragement from past experience, for continued and increased attention to this subject.

That the present tariff for the protection

of this article, is satisfactory.

That the state Legislatures are earnestly solicited to promote the culture of the raw material, by offering a bounty, till the country is

abundantly supplied for the manufacturers.

And finally, "that our manufacturers and other business men have now every reasona-ble encouragement to invest, in a wise and careful manner, their funds in this new form of domestic labor—growing and manufacturing silk."—American Agriculturist.

A SINGLE ESTABLISHMENT in Ohio Manufactures silk to the amount of one thousand dollars per month, and advertises to pay four dol-lars a bushel for all the cocoons which may be offered.

Times haves changed since our grandmothers spun their own yarn, and were acc ashamed to knit in company: and we have refollowing illustrations:

Customs in 1743

Man to the plough;
Wife to the cow; Girl to the yarn; Boy to the barn; And your rents will be netted 1843.

Man, dandy O! Miss, Piano; Wife, silk and satin; Boys, Greek and Latin; And you'll all be gazetted.

DISHEARTENED MEN.—There should be no uch thing known to men as being disheartened. If enjoyment is hard to obtain, seek it the more dilligently, reflect the more carefully, be more economical. But never despair, never be idle, never stop trying-when you draw the last breath, try to draw another.—
Resolution, energy, spirit and courage have fed many a family in times past, and will do it again in time future.—Picayune.

LIQUID MANURES.—A solution of soot and water is recommended, in the proportion of six quarts of the former to a hogshead of the latter. This mixture has been found to exercise a most salutary influence on peas, asparagus and a variety of other vegetables to which it has been applied. We do not doubt the fact stated, and would here observe that the soap suds which is made in a farmers family, which is mostly thrown away, is one of the most effective manures that can be applied to vegetables and flowers of all kinds. From an experience of several years, we can testify to its invigorating effects, and recommend its use with confidence. There are but few families anywise extensive, who do not make a sufficient quantity of this article, in the course of the year, to keep a garden of tolerable size, not only in good condition, but rich enough to secure good crops of vegetables .- Baltimore Farmer and Gardener.

NEW FASHIONED POTATOES .- The Wheeling Gazette speaks of a new species of the potatoe plant that has just been imported from South America. The fruit grows on vines, like pumpkins, and will do to make handsome arbors; a single seed potato being sufficient to cover a verandah. The beauty of this above-ground vegetable is, that you can pick out the finest potatoes without damaging the plants, and leave the 'small potatoes' to grow larger, - Selected.

Industry.—Every young man should remember that the world always has and always will honor industry. The vulgar and useless idler whose energies of mind and body are rusting for want of exercise—the mistaken being who pursues amusement as a relief to his enervated muscles, or engages in exercises that produce no useful end, may look with scorn upon the smutty laborer engaged in his toil. But his scorn is praise. His contempt is an honor. Honest industry will secure the respect of the wise and the good among men, yield the rich fruit of an easy conscience, and give that hearty self respect which is above all price. Toil on, then, young men. Be diligent in business. Improve the heart and the mind, and you will find the well-spring of enjoyment in your own souls, and secure the confidence and respect of those whose respect is worth an effort to obtain.

Good Advice .- If your coat is comfortable. wear it two or three months longer; no matter if the gloss is off. If you have no wife, get one; if you have, God bless her; stay at home with her, instead of spending your evenings in expensive fooleries. Be honest, frugal, plain—seek content and happiness at home; be industrious and persevering; and our word for it, if you are in debt you will soon get out of it; if your circumstances are now embarrassed, they will soon become easy, no matter who may be President, or what may be the price of stocks.—Boston Cultivator.

Those who have kindly acted as agents for this paper are requested to forward their orders as soon as convenient.

## Agricultural Statistics.

From an examination of the Marshall's Returns at the last United States Census, it appears—That the State of Ohio raised more Wheat than any other State in the Union—exceeding Pennsylvania by about 8,000,000 bushels; and Pennsylvania exceeds N. York about 2,000,000 bushels; Virginia about 1,500,000 less than New York. New York, however, exceeds Pennsylvania in Rye, about 3,000,000 bushels—Indian Corn, 2,800,000 bushels—Oats more than 2,000,000 bushels, Buckwheat, 300,000 bushels—Barley, 2,200-000 bushels—Potatoes, 21,000,000 bushels—Wool, 1,000,000 lbs.—Hay, nearly 2,000,000 tons—Sugar, over 8,000,000 pounds, and products of the dairy, upwards of 8,000,000 dollars. The state of Tennessee raised 42,600,000 bushels of Corn, exceeding any other State in the Union. North Carolina, 34,500,000—Virginia, 34,000,000—Illinois, 28,000,000—Michigan, 22,000,000—Alabama, 18,000,000.

ma, 18,000,000.

Of neat Cattle, New York possesses 2,642,433; Pennsylvania, 1,146,418; Ohio, 1,008,313. Of Sheep, New York has 5,381,225; Pennsylvania, 3,396,431; Ohio, 1,963,957; Vermont, 1,393,420; Virginia, 1,280,736. In the products of the Orchard, New York and Vermont have nearly double the amount of any other State—the former being to the amount of \$1,737; the latter \$1,109,287.

There are many other items which we intend to give hereafter. The resources of the country are abundant. If our citizens will only economize—purchase no more foreign articles than are absolutely necessary for their wants—the time will soon arrive, when the pressure which is so heavily felt, will pass away. We must return to a system of economy in every department of life. Frugality and industry are absolutely necessary to the prosperity of this country. We must learn to live more within ourselves, if we would be prepared for exigencies, such as we now witness.—Central New York Farmer.

Novel.—A steamboat is being built at New Castle, Del. by Capt. Robinson, upon an entirely new plan. She is constructed without frame or timbers, being put together upon the principle of a hogshead, with iron hoops. She is 85 feet long, has 12 feet beam guards included, 21 feet hold, and when ready, will not draw more than two feet and a half water. The hooping does away with calking, and having no frame, gives her more room and less weight as well as being a great saving of timber and money.

REMEDY FOR THE HESSIAN FLY.—An intelligent correspondent of the Farmer's Cabinet, after experimenting six years, affirms that rolling the land about the time the insect makes its appearance in spring and fall will effectually destroy both fly and egg.

He who in a given time can produce more than many others, has vigor; he who can produce more and better, has talent; he who that appreciate the value of these qualifications, will not fail to acquire them.—Buel.

# Agricultural Facts.

Let every farmer and gardener whose eye rests on the heading of this article, consider himself most earnestly entreated by us to send us 'facts,' or even a single 'fact' which may come to his knowledge, in his practice in his rural business. No matter how unimportant a 'single fact' of this kind may appear to the narrator, it may become of incalculable utility to the community. No matter in how rude a form it may come to us, we can so polish the rough gem, that it may come out a diamond of value. What could not be effected for the common agricultural interest, if the farmers of the West would only send us the unstudied results of their experience, in every particular instance of an apparently new discovery? If we could only get them into this most valuable habit, each would be reaping the benefits of the other's labors, and be adding to the general store-house of information. We will leave it to their choice whether to sign their names or initials only, to their communications, but the names seem the most honest way. Come, good friends of a common cause, send in your 'facts,' or but one 'fact' in any manner you please, connected with the cultivation of the grains, the grasses, farm stock implements of husbandry, manures and the manner of applying them, and the rest of the innumerable points of interest relating to the great fundamental building of man's happiness in this physical department of his condition.—Western Farmer.

# YOUNG HOUSEWIVES' DEPARTMENT.

# The Housewife.

A good housewife is one of the first blessings in the economy of life. What we mean by good is, that she possesses those qualifications, and exercises them which are essential to the good order and economy of a family, the tidy appearance, good manners and respectability of the children, and the comfort and enjoyment of the domestic circle. She should understand, particularly, every branch of household duty, so as to be able to perform it on any emergency—and these emergencies are liable to occur to all—and at all times be able to superintend and direct. Depend upon it, men put a great value upon the housewife qualification of their partners, after marriage, however little they may weigh with them before; and there is nothing which tends more to mar the felicities of married life, than a recklessness or want of knowledge in the new housekeeper, of the duties which belong to her station. We admire beauty, and order, and system, in every thing, and we admire good fare: If these are found in their dwellings, and are seasoned with good nature and good sense, men will seek for their chief enjoyments at home, they will love their home and their partners, and strive to reciprocate the kind offices of duty and affection.—Mothers that study the welfare of their daughters, will not fail to instruct them in the qualifications of married life; and daughters that appreciate the value of these qualifications, will not fail to acquire them.—Buel.

## Recipe for making good Bread.

James Roche, long celebrated in Baltimore, as a baker of excellent bread, having retired from business, has furnished the Baltimore American with the following recipe for making bread, with a request that it should be published for the information of the public:

"Take an earthen vessel larger at the top than the bottom, and in it put one pint of milk warm water, one and a half pounds of flour and half a pint of malt yeast; mix them well together, and set it away, [in winter it should be in a warm place,] until it rises and falls again, which it will in from three to five hours (it may be set at night if wanted in the morning;) then put two large spoonfuls of salt into two quarts of water; and mix it well with the above rising; then put in about nine pounds flour and work your dough well, and put it by until it becomes light? Then mix it out in loaves. New flour requires one fourth more salt than old and dry flour. The water should be tempered according to the weather; in spring and fall it should only be milk-warm; in hot weather cold; and in winter, warm."

Washington Cake—So called, because it was a favorite at the table of Gen Washington. Recipe for making.—Take two lbs. of flour, one quart of milk, with an ounce of butter, heated together—put the milk and butter into the flour when it is about lukewarm, add a cent's worth of yeast, three eggs and a teaspoonful of salt; place it in pans over night-and bake it in the morning, in a quick oven for three quarters of an hour.

To Make Yeast.—Two middling sized boiled potatoes, add a pint of boiling water and two tablespoonfuls of brown sugar. One pint of hot water should be applied to every half pint of the compound. Hot water is better in warm weather. This yeast being made without flour will keep longer, and is said to be much better than any previously in use.

Hints to Housewives.—Do not wrap knives and forks in woolens. Wrap them in good, strong paper. Steel is injured by lying in woolens.

Do not let coffee and tea stand in tin.—

Do not let coffee aud tea stand in tin.— Scald your wooden-ware often; and keep your tin ware dry.

Barley straw is the best for beds; dry corn husks, slit into shreds, far better than straw.

Straw beds are much better for being boxed at the sides; in the same manner upholsters prepare ticks for feathers.

Brass and iron should be cleaned, done up in papers, and put in a dry place, during the summer season.

To Wash Woollen Goods.—The art of washing weellen goods so as to prevent them from shrinking, is one of the desiderata in domestic economy worthy of being recorded, and it is therefore with satisfaction that we explain this simple process to our readers.—All descriptions of woollen goods should be washed in very hot water with soap, and as soon as the article is cleansed, immerse it in cold water, let it then be wrung and hung up to dry.—Selected.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## THE PRINTER'S SOLILOQUY.

"Tis strange, tis most prodigious strange. That our subscribers are so carries grown In paying their arreurs. They cannot think That we alone, who publish to the world News from all autions, and delight to spread Useful instruction through our spaceous land, Can meunwhile live on air; 'tis flesh and blood That works the press and turns the blacken'd sheet Well stored and rendy for their enger eyes. This flesh and blood must be recruited oft, As well as theirs, or else the press must stop; This calls for CASH. And then how many reams Of paper are struck off and scattered wide, And many things required by those who priet, For which their money must be answerable. Oh! that our readers would consider this! And while, well pleased, they look the paper o'er And gather information from its pages, Let each just ask himself the question : "Do I not owe the printer who supplies me with This sheet ?" And then let conscience prompt to add "I will go even now and PAY HIM. So should we Well pleased receive, and with light heart pursue Our meful toils, while conscience would applaud Their conduct, and give . lish to the zost, We may prepare. Come, then good friends, and soon

## EXAMPLE.

His faults that in a private station sits, Do mainly harm him only who commits : Those placed on high a bright example owe-Much to themselves, more to the crowd below. A paltry watch, in private pocket borne, Misleade but him alone by whom 'tie worn ; But the town clock, that steeples oft display, By going wrong, leads half the town astray

Millions of money are yearly spent in teaching the children how to read, or how to call words by name. If our schools are not improved so as to give the children something more than mere verbal attainment, is not all this money and time worse than lost? How much is now done that children may learn to read!! Yet how few, from this read to learn! And before they ever can read to learn, they must do something more in schools than merely learn to read.

Children in schools should receive a love of knowledge—they should learn to compare, to discriminate, to reason. They should make an active recital in benevolence, kindness, love and good will; and their minds should be stored with knowledge of the "duties of mankind." The individual, internal man, should be developed,—invigorated—capable on any occasion, in after life, of seeing and seizing truth, and of vanquishing error .-Then there can be no demagogues. Our schools, defective and deficient as they are now give imposters ample room and 'golden opportunities.'—Common School Assistant.

EDUCATION is a young man's capital—for a well informed, intelligent man has the best assurance of future competence and happiness.

A father's best gift to his child then is education. If you leave them wealthy, you may feeure their ruin.

Por the Michigan Parmer. METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS, MADE AT JACKSON MICH., BY ALEXANDER CRAWFORD. PERRUARY, 1843.

	TH	ERM'	TER.	W	NDS.	WEATHER.		
Date.	Sunrise.	1 P. M.	9 P. M.	A. M.	P. M.	F .	P. M.	
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28	16	28	10	W	W	cl'dy	cl'dy	

\* All thus marked are below Zero. Moan temperature of the month, 17047. The coldest day during the month, or the past winter, was February 17th.

# AGENTS FOR THE FARMER.

the second section of the second	CHARLES AND
Albion,	Wm. B. Olcott,
Bellevue,	David Judson,
Brighton.	N. Sullivan,
Coldwater,	Albert Chandler,
Detroit,	William Harsha,
MATERIAL CAL THROUGH,	D. C. Whitwood,
Dexter,	
Eaton Rapids,	Amos Hamlin,
Flint,	J. D. Coleman,
Farmington,	C. Moore,
Franklin,	James Carhart,
Grand Rapids,	William Bemis,
Jonesville,	H. L. Hewitt,
Kalamazoo,	F. March,
Lima,	Oliver L. Cooper,
Leslie,	Henry Fiske,
Marshall,	D. Wallingford,
Mason Centre,	Jason K. Winchell,
Niles,	D. W. Mather,
Plymouth,	H. B. Holbrook,
White Pigeon,	Wm. O. Austin,
Walled Lake,	T. Deuel,
	E. C. Allen.
Ypsilanti,	L. C. Allen.

TRAVELING AGENTS. D. PITZGERALD and HENRY M. PISKE.

### BANK NOTE TABLE.

#### CORRECTED FOR THE MICHIGAN FARMER.

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# TO PRINTERS.

Boston Pritting Isk.—Warranted, in kege 25 to 50 mounds each—30 cents per pound for a and 40 cents for Book Ink. 5 per cent discount for Mr. J. P. Clark, the manufacturer, has lately come capital discoveries, which have given to his a decided improvement. It is now pronounced by Bay State Democrat, the Roston Daily Mail an several printers in New York, who have used it, a rate article and equal if not superior to any in the ctry.

Printers of newspapers, who insert this advertise including this notice, to the amount of \$1, and for a paper containing the same will be allowed the in their next purchase of ink, at the Michigan Store, Jefferson Avenue, Detroit

#### PLOUGHS! PLOUGHS!!

The best patterns of Small and Breaking-Up Ploughe in be found at the Jackson Steam Furnace. Jackson, April 1, 1843.

#### "LIVE AND LET LIVE."

All kinds of Produce—also Wood, Lumber, &c. be received in exchange for the Farmer, if delivered as

DY PARMER OFFICE-In the brick block adj can Hotel, Main street, Jackson. can produce what more che can, has genius, I sone, will not that to